Warsaw, 31.05.2016

Polish winners of the European Youth Debating Competition

The youth debate in Poland organized on 31 May in the Business School of Warsaw Technical University was the fifth of 9 planned events of the European Youth Debating Competitions, organized by EPCA (The European Petrochemical Association) and PlasticsEurope.

53 students from 15 schools from Warsaw, Płock and Włocławek debated on how they imagine their future: with or without petrochemical industry and plastics?
The students were welcomed by Helena Huovinen, President of PlasticsEurope Polska and vice CEO of Basell Orlen Polyolefins, who encouraged young people to express their views openly and make a good debate. Then the expert's view on pro and con fractions were presented by Piotr Kwiecień (Chairman of PlasticsEurope Polska, Managing Director of Sabic Poland) and Dominik Dobrowolski (environmentalist and traveler). Soon after the students debate started and from the very beginning it was very vivid thus also balanced.

The arguments used by the students perfectly reflected their broad knowledge of the topic. Young people highlighted the positive role of plastics in different areas such as transport, building & construction, packaging or medicine but they also expressed their concerns on plastics waste and health issues.

For the jury, consisting of representatives of industry, science, NGOs and media, the task of choosing the winners was not easy. But finally the three winners of the debate in Warsaw were chosen as follows:

1. Maksymilian Głowacki, XIV LO im. Stanisława Staszica, Warsaw
2. Aleksandra Janowska, XIV LO im. Stanisława Staszica, Warsaw
3. Maciej Obrębski, V LO im. Księcia Józefa Poniatowskiego, Warsaw

All winners won a ticket to Budapest for the grand finale debate where they will discuss with young people from eight other countries on chemicals and plastics related topics.